

LIEUTENANT COLONEL HENRY K. VAN RENSSELAER.

[To accompany Bill H. R. No. 786.]

MAY 25, 1860.

Mr. POTTER, from the Committee on Revolutionary Pensions, made the following

REPORT.

The Committee on Revolutionary Pensions, to whom was referred the petition of Nancy G. Van Rensselaer, of New York, widow of Henry K. Van Rensselaer, deceased, who was a lieutenant colonel in the New York militia during the war of the revolution, report:

That from the petition and evidence in this case it appears that Lieutenant Colonel Henry K. Van Rensselaer performed several tours of service in the war of the revolution, as follows: In 1776, *two months*; from May 3, 1779, to January 1, 1780, *seven months and twenty-eight days*; and in 1781, *three months and twenty-four days*, making *thirteen months and twenty-four days*. It also appears that in an engagement with the enemy near Fort Ann, on the 7th July, 1777, Colonel Van Rensselaer received a wound in his right thigh by a musket-ball, which caused a compound fracture of the thigh bone, and rendered him a cripple and invalid for life. The ball remained in his thigh, and was taken out after his death.

That after being confined by his wound for a year, he partially recovered, and performed the service above mentioned as commander of a garrison, except the service which was performed previous to his wound.

He died September 9, 1816, leaving a widow, (Nancy G. Van Rensselaer,) to whom he was married in April, 1796. She applied for a pension under the act of July 29, 1848, and upon proof of two years' service in the revolutionary war by her late husband, she was entitled, under the law of Congress, to a pension of \$600 per annum, commencing the 4th of March, 1848.

In estimating the amount of service performed by Colonel Van Rensselaer, she was allowed by the Commissioner of Pensions for the above *thirteen months and twenty-four days only*, and her pension estimated at \$343 32 per annum, which she now receives.

Since the adjustment of her claim at the Pension office much addi-

tional evidence has been furnished, and the committee are satisfied, from an examination of the same, that Colonel Van Rensselaer served and was confined by his wound for more than two years during the war of the revolution, while he held the rank of major and lieutenant colonel, for which service the petitioner is entitled to a pension of six hundred dollars per annum from 4th of March, 1848, for and during her natural life, deducting therefrom the \$343 32 per annum, which she has received as a pension under the act of 29th July, 1848.

The committee therefore report a bill in accordance with the evidence before them, with the recommendation that it do pass.